

August 16, 2016

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OREGON OPERATIONS OFFICE

AUG 18 2016

EPA-REGION 10

U.S. EPA  
ATTN: Harbor Comments  
805 SW Broadway, Suite 500  
Portland, OR 97205

I have lived in Portland for thirty-one years. I work as a printer, and I like walking along the Willamette River just to enjoy nature. The EPA strategy for purifying the river strikes me as very faulty. By dredging up the toxic sediment underneath the river, you run the risk of releasing it into the water all over again. It would be much better to let the river continue to cap over its pollutants naturally, intervening only where you must.

This cleanup project will be funded by Portland taxpayers to the tune of one billion dollars. My taxes are pretty high now, and I'm on a fixed income, so any tax increase would put heavier stress on my lifestyle. The river is the main attraction in Portland. Shutting it down for constant construction would be pretty detrimental to the economy overall. It would ruin the Rose Festival and other festivals they have down on the waterfront. Even I would think twice about fishing or walking by the river if it was a construction site.

If you don't live in the area, this project is not going to affect you. If you want to know what the people of Portland really want, you should ask them. The local community would be able to help come up with a better plan than what the EPA is offering that would minimize the impact on the local economy.

Sincerely,

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Portland, OR 97202